

REMARKS

In the Office Action, dated August 22, 2002, the Examiner states that Claims 11-20 are pending, Claim 11 is rejected, and Claims 12-20 are withdrawn from consideration. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims.

In the Office Action, the Patent Office rejects Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Jahn (US 4,722,273) in view of EP 0 574 124. Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection in view of the amended claims.

Jahn discloses a printing unit having an inking unit, a dampening unit for applying water, and a fluid applying unit for applying lacquer. EP 0 574 124 teaches the use of a doctor blade chamber device to replace a fluid applying unit. The combination of these references results in a printing unit having an inking unit, a dampening unit, and a doctor blade chamber device. With this combination the inking unit and the dampening unit are engaged while water is being applied. When lacquer is applied by the doctor blade chamber device the inking unit and the dampening unit must be disengaged.

In contrast, the claimed invention in the present application is a printing unit having an inking unit and a doctor blade chamber device which applies both the water and the lacquer. No dampening unit is provided or necessary since the doctor blade chamber device functions as a dampening unit. This provides for a printing unit with a reduced number of parts in which only the inking unit is engaged and disengaged.

A claim has also been added directed to the embodiment shown in Figure 7 in which two doctor blade chamber devices are provided, one for applying water and the other for applying lacquer.

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In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in better condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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